

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00342 231237Z

43

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 SP-02 /037 W

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R 231110Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0292

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0342

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR QA US IR IZ

SUBJECT : AMIR OF QATAR REQUESTS US ASSESSMENT OF IRAN/IRAQ
SETTLEMENT

1. DURING MARCH 23 CONVERSATION, AMIR OF QATAR, SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI, ASKED THAT I PROVIDE HIM WITH A WASHINGTON ASSESSMENT OF IRAN/IRAQ SETTLEMENT WITHIN NEXT THREE OR FOUR DAYS. AMIR SPECIFICALLY ASKED IF US VIEWED AGREEMENT AS "DEFINITIVE END" TO DISPUTE AND WHETHER US HAD "CONTRIBUTED" TO AGREEMENT. AMIR STATED HE WISHED TO HAVE US VIEWS BEFORE FORMULATING HIS OWN ANALYSIS OF IMPACT OF AGREEMENT ON SITUATION IN GULF

2. I ASKED KHALIFA FOR HIS OWN ASSESSMENT OF IRAN/IRAQ SETTLEMENT. HE REPLIED THAT IF IT WERE "HONEST", IT WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL TO THE WHOLE REGION. ACCORDING KHALIFA, HE HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN ABLE TO TALK AT ANY LENGTH WITH SHAH OR SADDAM HUSSAIN AT ALGIERS SUMMIT ONMSUBJECT SINCE AGREEMENT ANNOUNCED
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PAGE 02 DOHA 00342 231237Z

ON MORNING OF LAST DAY OF CONFERENCE. KHALIFA SAID HE HAD BEEN

PREVIOUSLY AWARE OF "MOVEMENT" IN IRAN/IRAQ SITUATION, BUT HAD NO DETAILED INFORMATION. HE SAID HE HAD TALKED TO SADDAM HUSSAIN AFTER AGREEMENT ANNOUNCED, BUT SADDAM HAD BEEN SUFFERING FROM SLIPPED DISC AND BECAUSE OF THIS AMIR HAD LIMITED HIMSELF TO TEN MINUTE COURTESY VISIT BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST REQUEST OF THIS KIND FROM AMIR AND I WOULD LIKE TO BE RESPONSIVE. WE WILL NEED SOMETHING MORE THAN ELABORATION OF DEPT SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS TO BE CREDIBLE, AND I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO US INTERESTS TO GIVE AMIR BENEFIT OF OUR THINKING WITHIN APPROPRIATE LIMITS ON THIS SUBJECT. AS DEPT AWARE, GOQ HAS REGARDED IRAQ AS PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 1 IN GULF AND IS UNEASY ABOUT GROWING IRANINA MILITARY POWER, ALTHOUGH EXCELLENT RELATIONS ARE MAINTAINED WITH SHAH; THEREFORE IRAN/IRAQ SETTLEMENT OF MAJOR INTEREST HERE.
PAGANELLI

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